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AUTHOR	Plake, Barbara S., Ed.
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ABSTRACT

An introduction by Barbara S. Plake emphasizes that this volume investigates social and technical influences on test development and usage. Essential preliminary information on how tests can be used and may be interpreted is presented. Under the heading "Social and Technical Influences" are: (1) "Struggles and Possibilities: The Use of Tests in Decision Making" (Ellis Batten Page); (2) "What Cognitive Psychology Can (and Cannot) Do for Test Development" (Robert J. Sternberg); (3) "The Status of Test Validation Research" (Lyle F. Schoenfeldt); (4) "Social and Legal Influences on Test Development and Usage" (Donald N. Bersoff); and (5) "Testing and the Oscar Buros Lament: From Knowledge to Implementation to Use" (James V. Mitchell, Jr.). Under "Influences on Aptitude and Achievement Test Development and Usage" are: (6) "Aptitude and Achievement Tests: The Curious Case of the Indestructible Strawperson" (Anne Anastasi); (7) "Achievement Test Items: Current Issues" (Robert L. Ebel); and (8) "Abilities and Knowledge in Educational Achievement Testing: The Assessment of Dynamic Cognitive Structures" (Samuel Messick). (SLD)

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